

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A mobile device to supply information, notably for tourism, to a user, comprising:

storage means (1), fragmented into sectors (13), each said sector gathering the information to be supplied and corresponding at least to one given geographic location and showing an address,

tracking means (2) of said device, capable of delivering so-called positioning information, corresponding to the location in which said device is situated,

processing means (4), capable of drawing up a reading instruction containing at least the address of the sector of the information to be supplied in relation at least to said positioning information, on the basis of one or several correspondence tables (6, 6') comprised in said device and associating at least the address of said sector and said positioning information regarding the same geographic location,

reading means (7) for the information contained in the sector showing the address of said reading instruction, which is delivered to them by said processing means (4), so-called information selected,

playing means (9), capable of transmitting the information selected in order to provide the user with messages regarding at least the geographic location where he is.

2. A device according to claim 1,

wherein the pieces of information to be supplied contained in each said sector correspond moreover to one or several fields of one or several customization criteria,

said device comprises moreover parameterization means (14), capable of enabling the user to select the requested field for each customization criterion,

said device comprises at least two said correspondence tables (6, 6', the first table (6) associating said positioning information and a so-called comment reference, covering all the sectors containing information to be supplied, regardless of the field(s) or selection criteria used, regarding the same geographic location, the second table associating said comment reference and the address of the sector regarding the information to be supplied in relation to the fields selected.


3. A device according to the claim 1 or 2, wherein said storage means (1) are removable.

4. A device according to any of the previous claims 1 to 3, wherein said processing means are capable of scanning permanently the positioning information delivered by said tracking means in order to determine the address of the sector of the information to be supplied as soon as one piece of the positioning information delivered can be associated with one or several sector addresses.

5. A device according to any of the previous claims 1 to 4 wherein said reading means are capable of being actuated as soon as a reading instruction is transmitted to them by said processing means in order to take into account the information selected by direct access to said storage means.

6. A device according to claim 1, wherein said processing means (4) comprise guiding means (17) for the reading means (7), intended for drawing up said reading instruction and for storing at least the list of addresses of the sectors already read in a memory unit (18), whereas said processing means (4) are provided to compare the address of the sector of the information to be supplied with the content of said list and said guiding means are provided moreover to deliver, to the reading means (7), a reading instruction containing the address of a sector of the storage means (1) comprising a standby message to be played when the comparison puts in evidence that said sector has already been read.

7. A device according to claim 6, wherein said guiding means (17) are moreover provided to deliver, to the reading means (7), a reading instruction containing the address of a sector of the storage means (1) comprising a message to be played when said positioning information is unknown in said correspondence table(s) (6, 6') and/or when no positioning information reaches the device.

 8. A device according to claim 1, wherein said tracking means (2) consist of a satellite positioning module (22) and/or a ground beacon positioning module (23).

9. A device according to claim 8, wherein said processing means (4) process first of all information from the ground beacon positioning module (23).

10. A device according to claim 1, comprising a buffer (24), capable of recording at least partially the information selected, of checking said information for integrity and of restoring said integrity in case of failures, to enable the transmission of said information selected by said playing means (9) after checking and possible restoration.

~~Sub A10~~ 11. A device according to claim 1, comprising besides means for checking the succession of the pieces of information selected by said reading means (7) capable of authorizing the message to be repeated and/or the message to be skipped regarding said means and/or still to pause during the delivery of said messages.

12. A device according to claim 1, comprising besides an additional memory unit (26) for storing information intended for providing statistics.

13. A device according to claim 1, comprising besides assistance means for the user.

14. A device according to claim 13, wherein said assistance means are capable of causing the information contained in the storage means to be taken into account, in all or in part, by said reading means, independently of the information provided by said tracking means, to release the delivery of the messages, in all or in part, at any time requested by the user.

~~Sub A11~~ 15. A device according to claim 13, wherein said assistance means consist of connection means to external information communication network.